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**FEB 08 2005**

PTO/SB/21 (04-04)

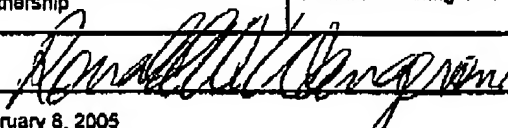
Approved for use through 07/31/2006 CMB 0551-0031

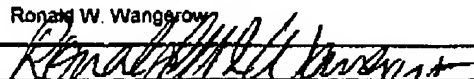
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<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b> <i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i>	Application Number	10/790,916	
	Filing Date	March 2, 2004	
	First Named Inventor	Steve George Koch	
	Art Unit	3676	
	Examiner Name	Vishal A. Patel	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	20	Attorney Docket Number	02-0011 (8470-000060)

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Technology Center (TC) <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): <p style="text-align: center;">Credit Card Payment Form</p>
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">Remarks</div>		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT			
Firm or Individual name	Freudenberg-NOK General Partnership	Attorney Name Ronald W. Wangerow	Reg. No. 29,597
Signature			
Date	February 8, 2005		

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING			
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below			
Typed or printed name	Ronald W. Wangerow	Express Mail Label No.	
Signature		Date	February 8, 2005

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 2.14. This collection is estimated to 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 10/790,916  
Filing Date: March 2, 2004  
Applicant: Steve George Koch  
Group Art Unit: 3676  
Examiner: Vishal A. Patel  
Title: SEAL FEATURE TO PREVENT BENDING  
Attorney Docket: 02-0011 (8470-000060)

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Mail Stop Amendment  
Director of The United States Patent and Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed August 20, 2004, please amend the application as follows and consider the remarks set forth below.

Applicant hereby requests a three-month extension of time in which to respond to the outstanding Office Action, extending the period of response through and including February 20, 2005. A Credit Card Payment Form is attached herewith for this purpose. Therefore, this Amendment is timely filed under the Certificate of Mailing provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.8.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.  
**Amendments to the Abstract** begin on page 6 of this paper.  
**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 7 of this paper.  
**Amendments to the Drawings** begin on page 11 of this paper.  
**Remarks** begin on page 12 of this paper.

02/08/2005 EKOLI1 00000013 10790916